



Billing Code 3410-DM-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. FSIS-2016-0001]

Codex Alimentarius Commission: Meeting of the Codex Committee on General Principles

AGENCY: Office of the Deputy Under Secretary for Food Safety, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Deputy Under Secretary for Food Safety, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is sponsoring a public meeting on April 4, 2016. The objective of the public meeting is to provide information and receive public comments on agenda items and draft United States (U.S.) positions to be discussed at the 30th Session of the Codex Committee on General Principles (CCGP) of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex), taking place in Paris, France, April 11-15, 2016. The Deputy Under Secretary for Food Safety recognizes the importance of providing interested parties the opportunity to obtain background information on the 30th Session of the CCGP and to address items on the agenda.

DATES: The public meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 4, 2016, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The public meeting will take place at the Jamie L. Whitten Building, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 107-A, Washington, DC 20250.

Documents related to the 30th Session of the CCGP will be accessible via the Internet at the following address:

<http://www.codexalimentarius.org/meetings-reports/en/>.

Mary Frances Lowe, U.S. Delegate to the 30th Session of the CCGP, invites U.S. interested parties to submit their comments electronically to the following e-mail address:

USCODEX@fsis.usda.gov.

CALL-IN-NUMBER:

If you wish to participate in the public meeting for the 30th Session of the CCGP by conference call, please use the call-in-number listed below:

Call-in-Number: 1-888-844-9904

The participant code will be posted on the web page below:

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/international-affairs/us-codex-alimentarius/public-meetings>

REGISTRATION: Attendees may register to attend the public meeting by e-mailing barbara.mcniff@fsis.usda.gov by April 1, 2016. The meeting will be held in a Federal building. Early

registration is encouraged because it will expedite entry into the building. Attendees should bring photo identification and plan for adequate time to pass through security screening systems. Attendees that are not able to attend the meeting in-person but wish to participate may do so by phone.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE 30th SESSION OF THE CCGP
CONTACT: Mary Frances Lowe, U.S. Codex Office, 1400 Independence Ave. SW., Room 4861, Washington, DC 20250,
Phone: (202) 205-7760, Fax: (202) 720-3157
Email: USCODEX@fsis.usda.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE PUBLIC MEETING CONTACT:
Barbara McNiff, U.S. Codex Office, 1400 Independence Ave. SW.,
Room 4861, Washington, DC 20250. Phone: (202) 205-7760,
Fax: (202) 720-3157, Email: USCODEX@fsis.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background:

Codex was established in 1963 by two United Nations organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Through adoption of food standards, codes of practice, and other guidelines developed by its committees, and by promoting their adoption and

implementation by governments, Codex seeks to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade.

The CCGP is responsible for dealing with procedural and general matters referred to it by the Codex, for proposing amendments to the Codex Procedural Manual, and for reviewing and endorsing procedural provisions and texts forwarded by Codex Committees for inclusion in the Procedural Manual.

The Committee is hosted by France.

Issues to be discussed at the Public Meeting:

The following items on the Agenda for the 30th Session of the CCGP will be discussed during the public meeting:

- Matters Referred to the Committee
- Codex Work Management and Functioning of the Executive Committee - Terms of Reference of Secretariat-led Internal Review
- Consistency of the Risk Analysis Texts across the Relevant Committees
- Other Business

Each issue listed will be fully described in documents distributed, or to be distributed, by the Secretariat before the Committee Meeting. Members of the public may access or request copies of these documents (see ADDRESSES).

Public Meeting:

At the April 4, 2016, public meeting, draft U.S. positions on the agenda items will be described and discussed, and attendees will have the opportunity to pose questions and offer comments. Written comments may be offered at the meeting or sent to the U.S. Delegate for the 30th Session of the CCGP, Mary Frances Lowe (see ADDRESSES). Written comments should state that they relate to activities of the 30th Session of the CCGP.

Additional Public Notification:

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, FSIS will announce this Federal Register publication on-line through the FSIS Web page located at: <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/federal-register>.

FSIS also will make copies of this publication available through the FSIS Constituent Update, which is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, Federal Register notices, FSIS public meetings, and other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents and stakeholders. The Update is available on the FSIS Web page. Through the Web page, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. In addition, FSIS offers an e-mail subscription service which provides automatic and customized access to selected food safety news and information. This service is available at:

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/subscribe> . Options range from recalls to export information, regulations, directives, and notices. Customers can add or delete subscriptions themselves, and have the option to password protect their accounts.

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http://www.ocio.usda.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2012/Complain_combined_6_8_12.pdf, or write a letter signed by you or your authorized representative.

Send your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by mail, fax, or E-mail:

Mail:

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Director, Office of Adjudication

1400 Independence Avenue, SW

Washington, DC 20250-9410

Fax: (202) 690-7442

E-mail: program.intake@usda.gov

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

Done at Washington, DC on: February 25, 2016.

Paulo Almeida,

Acting U.S. Manager for Codex Alimentarius

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